



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Guidelines for Recycling Containers and Signage for Recyclable Material Collection Services

The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure the provision of adequate recycling containers, both in number and type, and signage for the storage and collection of recyclable material. The containers shall be placed in a convenient location either at or next to current waste disposal areas, or as close as possible to high pedestrian traffic areas. To ensure that the City meets the state mandate under Assembly Bill 939 to divert at least 50 percent of its waste from landfill disposal, “adequate” is defined below. If you start with a program with service levels near the minimum percentage of service required, we expect that with time and as your recycling program becomes institutionalized, you will be able to adjust your service levels to surpass the 50% goal described herein.

#### Definition of “Adequate”\*

Type of Facility	Minimum required ratio of recycling to trash containers with equivalent volume capacity required (minimum/maximum)
<b>Multi-Family &amp; Mixed Use Facilities with majority sq. ft. being residential</b>	
50 units or more	40% recycling to 60% trash
Less than 50 units	30% recycling to 70% trash
<b>Commercial &amp; Mixed Use Facilities with majority sq. ft. being commercial</b>	
10,000 sq. ft. or more	40% recycling to 60% trash
Less than 10,000 sq. ft.	30% recycling to 70% trash
<b>Single Family Residence/Residential Facility serviced by private waste hauler</b>	Minimum of one recycling container of equal capacity to each refuse container

\*Exceptions to the above to be approved on a case by case basis by the Environmental Services Director or designee.

#### Residential and Commercial Facilities

All persons in residential, commercial, and multi-family facilities that are responsible for providing on-site recycling services shall ensure the provision of on-site containers for the collection and storage of recyclable materials that meet the following standards:

#### Standards for Recyclable Material Collection Containers:

**Container Features** - Automatic lift containers, bins, roll-offs, and other containers used to store recyclable materials pending collection shall be equipped with close-fitting lids and be leak-proof and rodent-proof.

**Cleaning and Maintenance** - Franchisee or Certified Recyclable Materials Collector shall maintain all of its containers used for providing service in the City of San Diego in a safe, neat, clean and operable condition at all times.

**Container Identification** - Automatic lift containers, bins, roll-offs, and other containers used to store recyclable materials pending collection within the City shall be clearly identified as a recyclable materials container, shall display the name and phone number of the Franchisee or Certified Recyclable Materials Collector to whom the container belongs.



**Container Signage** - Automatic lift containers, bins, roll-offs, and other containers used to collect and store recyclable materials pending collection within the City shall display a list of the recyclable materials which may be deposited into the container.

**Storage Area Signage:**

The facility owner, operator or manager is responsible for posting and maintaining one sign in each area where recyclable materials are collected and stored. The sign shall display a list of the recyclable materials which may be deposited into the container.

**Special Events**

Recycling receptacles must be provided at community special events that require an event permit from the City of San Diego. The following standards for receptacles and collected material apply:

- The number of recycling receptacles shall equal the number of solid waste receptacles.
- The solid waste and recycling receptacles shall be placed next to one another throughout the event venue.
- The types of recyclable materials suitable for deposit into each recycling receptacles shall include, at a minimum, aluminum and metal cans, and glass and plastic bottles and jars.
- Each recycling receptacles shall be clearly identified as a recycling receptacles and display a list of the types of recyclable materials that may be deposited into the receptacle.
- Recyclable materials deposited into the recycling receptacles must be delivered to a recycling facility for recycling, not a landfill for disposal.

Note: This guideline may be reviewed semi-annually and is subject to change when deemed warranted by the Environmental Services Director or designee.

Revision Date: 3-2-09